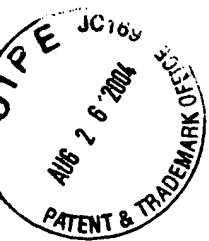


previous definition that defined a curvilinear shape as seen in a bottom plan view of the lifting body.


Claim 12 has been amended to incorporate new definition that states: “--the artificially pressurized gas layer is supplied with pressurized gas by a powered blower with the conduit for passing the pressurized gas to the artificially pressurized gas layer from the powered blower is internal to a duct disposed, at least in its majority, inside of one of the strut-like members and wherein said strut like members are disposed transversely over the upper surface of the lifting body and wherein an upper surface of the lifting body, as seen in a vertical longitudinal plane of the lifting body ship, is at least mainly curvilinear in shape.”. This defines over the prior art in that the strut like members are transversely oriented over the top of a single lifting body and also at least one of the transversely oriented over the single lifting body strut like members includes a passageway for the blower pressurized air to pass. Further defining over the prior art is the description of the upper surface of the lifting body being, as seen in a vertical longitudinal plane of the lifting body ship, curvilinear.

Allowed claims 22-28, except for a minor technical correction to claim 28, have been left in their original configurations.

It is respectfully submitted that the Application as herewith amended should now be in condition for allowance and that action is respectfully requested. However should the Examiner feel that some matters remain to be resolved, a telephone interview with the undersigned counsel for the Applicant is respectfully invited if the same would be expedient in resolving any remaining formalities or other matters. Respectfully submitted,



Dated: August 24, 2004


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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the attached paper has been deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Honorable Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, this 24 day of August, 2004 which is neither a Saturday, Sunday, or federal holiday within the District of Columbia, and I accordingly claim the filing date of August 24, 2004 for this paper as provided for in 37 CFR ^{1.8}~~1.10~~.

Respectfully submitted,

August 24, 2004


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